

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 6, 7 and 8. These sheets, which include Figs. 5, 6, 7 and 8 replace the original sheets including Figs. 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-11 are amended to use wording and structure consistent with U.S. patent law practice.

Claim 1 is amended to include the description from Claim 3. Further support for the added description in Claim 1 is found on page 9, lines 9-14, in the specification.

Claim 3 is herein canceled.

Claim 6 is amended to include the description from Claim 8. Further support for the added description in Claim 8 is found on page 9, lines 9-14, in the specification.

Claim 8 is herein canceled.

Claim 12 is new and is supported in Fig. 3 and on page 11, lines 3-9, in the specification.

Claim 13 is new and is supported in Fig. 2 of the specification.

Claim 14 is new and is supported in Fig. 3 and on page 11, lines 3-9, in the specification.

Claim 15 is new and is supported in Fig. 2 of the specification.

No new matter is believed added to this application by entry of this amendment.

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1-2, 4-7 and 9-15 will be active.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claimed invention is directed to a support beam for supporting or reinforcing internal structures of an apparatus in which easily polymerizable substances are for example, distilled or absorbed. The claimed support beam is constructed so that the easily polymerizable substance does not collect on the beam and subsequently polymerize as occurs in conventional apparatus. No such support beam is disclosed or suggested in the cited references.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Manoharan for the indication that Claims 3-4 and 8-9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicants note that Claims 1 and 6 are herein amended to include the descriptions of Claims 3 and 8, respectively, which accomplishes the necessary changes described. Claims 3 and 8 are accordingly canceled. The remaining claims are amended to be consistent with amended Claims 1 and 6. New Claims 12-15 depend either from Claim 1 or Claim 6.

The rejection of Claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is believed obviated by appropriate amendment. Claim 1 is amended to specifically describe the angle α as shown in Fig. 2 and described on page 9, lines 9-14, in the specification. The same description is included in Claim 6.

Claim 11 is amended to recite distillation or absorption.

The objection to the Abstract is believed obviated by appropriate amendment. An amended Abstract (clean and marked-up copies) is attached.

The objections to the drawings is believed obviated by appropriate amendment as indicated in the attached annotated and replacement drawing sheets.

Applicants respectfully note that Figs. 2 and 5 show a folded back portion "14" which is a single inclined portion, while Figs. 3 and 6, which support Claims 12 and 14 now show an inclined portion of the folded back portion as "21." Applicants respectfully submit that as the two portions differ in this aspect, different number labels are appropriate.

The rejections of Claims 1-2, 5-6 7 and 10-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over "Applicants Disclosure of Admitted Prior in view of Japan 49-4136 or Nutter et al. (2002/0190403) are moot in view of the amendments made herein and in view of the Examiner's indication that Claims 3-4 and 8-9 would be allowable, if changed as herein


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amended. Claims 12-15 all directly depend from the allowable claims and therefore Applicants respectfully submit, are also allowable.

In view of all the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance and early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay E. Rowe Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

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